

LIBRARY

STONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

To the Chairman and Members of  
The Stone Rural District Council.

561 Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my report for the year 1940.

The normal work and activities of Public Health have been considerably curtailed in your District chiefly owing to the fact that your Staff has been considerably reduced and those members remaining are engaged on War activities, A.R.P., Salvage etc., which has left only time to carry out the most essential work to maintain the health of the population.

The fact also that I am acting as a part time Officer and have a considerable increase in my private practice has made it difficult to keep in touch with the various duties requiring my attention. Fortunately I have been very ably assisted by your Staff, Mr. Gaskin, Mr. Hawkes the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Holmes until he joined H.M. Forces, and Mr. Bevan now in the Sanitary Inspector's Office. They have shewn me every kindness and consideration.

I have the honour to be, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. Murray Barrow,

Medical Officer of Health.

### A.R.P. ORGANIZATION.

The arrangements for First Aid for injured, sustained in enemy air raids in the Stone Rural District, are on the whole good. Also owing to local efforts the standards of equipment and efficiency have developed far beyond the requirements laid down by the Ministry of Health.

Eccleshall which is the most populous parish in the district has a very efficient "Post" manned by keen workers under the care of Dr. Glynne Owen.

Mr. Carter at the castle has kindly set apart a suite of rooms fitted up for the reception of severe cases.

Trentham, which borders on the two areas of The Stone Rural District and Stoke-on-Trent, after a period of inactivity is now supplied with a complete mobile unit which Dr. Yates is in charge of. This is manned day and night.

Barlaston has a very good post, manned by a Red Cross detachment under the leadership of Miss Bullock. (Since this report was completed Miss Bullock has been appointed Commandant of the Sandon Hall Convalescent Hospital.)

Blythe Bridge is similarly well staffed, although the premises at the Tennis Club Pavilion are not suitable. Efforts have been made to find a more solid and protected quarter without success. The First Aid workers are very enthusiastic, led by Miss Astbury.

Meir Heath has good premises at the Warden's Post and under ex Petty Officer Titterton R.N. maintain a high standard of 1st Aid efficiency with regular weekly practices.

Hilderstone is somewhat of a disappointment. Although a course of Red Cross lectures have been given in the winter the initial enthusiasm waned and regular practices are not held.

Swynnerton is provided with good premises by Lord Stafford and its equipment is satisfactory. Practices are not held regularly.

Sandon also, though favoured with a commodious and convenient building in the Village Hall lacks leadership and organization in the personnel. No practices are held.

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### AIR RAID SHELTERS.

As regards Air Raid Shelters, the policy of the Ministry of Home Security has changed from individual to Communal Shelters. This is probably due to a shortage of materials. It has naturally delayed the work and provision of shelter accommodation.

In December the Council appointed Mr. R. E. Wood, Architect of Hanley to arrange for the provision of Air Raid Shelters in the District.

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## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The remarkable and widespread epidemic of Measles has been the outstanding feature of the notifiable disease during the past year. The number of fatal cases have not been out of the way, but several schools have closed down. Apart from the Measles epidemic the health of the community has been good.

The work of inspection of school children in your schools has had to be transferred temporarily to the Lady Medical Officer attached to the Standon Hall Orthopaedic Hospital under the County Education Authority.

The immunising of school children with Anti-Diphtheria Serum has been carried out regularly and methodically with a high percentage of acceptances in the schools, as the figures given below, show. Besides the children of school age, many parents have brought their younger children to the school for immunization.

The following figures cover the period from June 1940 to March 1941.

	Consent Given	Inoculated.
Croxton C. of E. School.		23
Chebsey C. of E. School.		19
Offley Hay. C. of E.		18
Yarnfield C. of E. School.		16
Fulford C. Of E. School.		36
Slindon C. of E. School.	8	19
Milwich Council. School.	17	27
Hilderstone C of E. School.	15	27
Sandon. School.	25	31
Barlaston C. of E. School .	26	22
Tittensor C. of E. School.	15	16
Stone Rural. Aston.	24	22
Moddershall C. School.	19	20
Standon C. of E. School.	18	18
Cotes. Heath C of E. School.		11
Eccleshall Senior School.	69	69
Oulton C. of E. School.		9
Stone Senior School.	112	109

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Small Pox.....	Nil.
Diphtheria.....	6.
Scarlet Fever.....	8.
Enteric.....	Nil.
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	1.
Pneumonia.....	10.
Erysipelas.....	Nil.
Measles.....	85.
Whooping Cough.....	9.

# VITAL STATISTICS TO DECEMBER, 1940.

## Births & Deaths.

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate.....	195	86	109
Live Births Illegitimate.....	6	3	3
Still Births.....	7	4	3
Deaths of Infants under one year...	7	5	2
Total Deaths.....	160	85	75

## Deaths from certain specified diseases.

Cancer (all ages).....	17
Measles.....	1
Whooping Cough.....	0
Diarrhoea (under two years of age).....	0

## Deaths from Puerperal causes:-

	Deaths in Stone R.D.	Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births.	
		Stone R.D.	Eng. & Wales
Puerperal Sepsis.....	0	0	0.52
Other puerperal causes.....	0	0	1.64
Total.....	0	0	2.16

## Birth and Death Rate.

	Stone Rural District.	Eng. & Wales.
Birth Rate per 1000 population.	14.7	14.6
Still Birth Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.	39.2	
Crude Death Rate per 1000 population.	11.9	14.3.
* Corrected Death Rate per 1000 population.	10.9	
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1000 live births.	35.0	55

\* The corrected Death Rate is obtained by multiplying the crude Death Rate by the factor 0.96.



Bacteriological and Chemical Examination of Water.

Bacteriological examination of water supplies...	Satisfactory	11.
	Unsatisfactory	<u>35</u>
	Total.	<u>46</u>
Chemical examination of water supplies	...Satisfactory	7
	Unsatisfactory	<u>38</u>
	Total..	<u>45</u>

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TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1940.

Number of New Cases.....	13.
Mortality (1 Male Age 38 & 1 Female Age 40)....	2.
Number of cases on Register at end of 1940.....	40.

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The following 43 patients were received at the  
Yarnfield Isolation Hospital during the year:-

From Stone R.D.C. From Stone U.D.C. From Uttoxeter.

Scarlet Fever.	7	2	11
Diphtheria.	6	7	6
Other Diseases.	1	-	2

1 case of Diphtheria was admitted from Stafford Isolation  
Hospital during the year owing to the fact that this  
Hospital had no accommodation.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

By the Local authority ...	Nil.
By other Local authorities ...	Nil.
By private enterprise ...	21.

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Inspection of dwelling houses during the year 1940.

1. (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing  
defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 72
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 87
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under the  
sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and  
recorded..... 27
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 39
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a  
state so dangerous or injurious to health as  
to be unfit for human habitation..... Nil

4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... 43.

Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers..... 16

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

a. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act 1936.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs..... 19

Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices...

- (a) By Owners..... 13  
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners..... Nil

b. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... 35

Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice.

- (A) By Owners..... 1  
(B) By Local Authority in default of owners..... Nil

c. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition Orders were made..... Nil

Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... Nil.

d. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing orders were made..... Nil.

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit..... Nil.